Development of new locomotive

1192. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Railways have developed a new locomotive which can reduce the journey time;

(b) if so, how much time can be reduced in long journies; and

(c) by when these locomotives are likely to be introduced for use of passenger and express trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In addition to locomotive, the journey time of a train depends on several other factors such as condition of track and bridges, type of signalling, whether the section is single or double line, traffic density etc. A reduction of about 6% in the journey time of long distance trains is possible by new generation diesel/electric locos as compared to trains hauled by conventional locos.

(c) 25 electric and 11 diesel locos are currently in passenger service.

Violation of BIS norms

1193. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a sample of bottle of Rail Neer supplied to the passengers has been found to be chemically contaminated and in violation of the norms specified by Bureau of Indian Standards; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) and (b) "Hindustan Times" on 05.08.2003 report about the rejection of Rail Neer samples at Allahabad. Counter samples of the same date were examined in Delhi Jal Board's lab on 18.08.2003 and were found fit as per the norms of Bureau of Indian Standards.